

Teacher-Training Pilot Program Grants

September 2001

BACKGROUND

RCW 28B.80.620 authorizes the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) to administer a competitive grant program to expand or create collaborative teacher-training and recruitment programs through Washington public high schools, community colleges, and four-year institutions. The 2001-03 state operating budget includes a total of \$300,000 for competitive grants to support the teacher-training pilot program.

For the 1999-2001 Biennium, the HECB approved two proposals:

- Western Washington University, Everett Community College, Skagit Valley Community College, Whatcom Community College Teacher-Training Pilot Program in Collaboration with Bellingham, Blaine, Everett, and Sedro-Woolley School Districts – \$149,966 for the 1999-2001 Biennium. This proposal focused on developing a coordinated approach to training teachers for the K-12 system.
- University of Washington Bothell, Teacher-Training Pilot Program, in Collaboration with Cascadia Community College District and Northshore and Lake Washington School Districts – \$144,698 for the 1999-2001 Biennium. This proposal focused on establishing a teacher-training program that combines early identification of prospective teachers at the high schools, preparatory experiences at the community college, and culminating course work and field experiences at the university.

Later this year, HECB staff will present a report on the outcomes of these initial pilot programs.

For the 2001-03 Biennium, the HECB issued a request for proposals (RFP) that solicited new pilot projects and invited the 1999-2001 grant recipients to apply for up to \$25,000 during FY 2002 to enable these institutions to complete their work in the new programs.

GRANT PROPOSAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS

In July 1999, the HECB adopted *Resolution 99-27*, which outlined the process to review and approve proposals for the teacher-training pilot program grant. In accordance with *Resolution No. 99-27*:

- HECB staff distributed the RFP for the Teacher-Training Pilot Program on July 17, 2001, to the public two-and-four-year colleges and universities. The RFP also was distributed to the independent baccalaureate institutions, because a public institution could invite them to be a partner in the teacher-training pilot program.

- By August 24, six proposals arrived — one from a community college and five from the public four-year institutions. Washington State University did not submit a proposal. WSU is working with a multi-million dollar federal teacher-training grant.
- On September 5, a review committee of representatives from K-12 and two- and four-year institutions, the private baccalaureate institutions and HECB staff reviewed and ranked the proposals. Organizations represented on the review committee included the state Professional Educator Standards Board, the state Community and Technical College system, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board for Education.

REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Of the six proposals received, the review committee recommends funding three proposals, described below.

- **University of Washington, Bothell Teacher-Training Pilot Program Extension: The Teaching Link in Collaboration with Cascadia Community College District -- \$20,000 for FY 2002.**

This proposal focuses on creating additional pathways from local high school teaching academies through local community colleges into the UW Bothell Education Minor and Teacher Certification Program.

Three outcomes are expected as a result of this project:

1. Follow-up with students who completed the Cascadia education courses to determine how those courses have influenced their interests in teaching;
2. Establish teacher preparation program articulation agreements with Shoreline and Bellevue Community College; and
3. Develop additional contacts with high school teaching academies.

- **Green River Community College Teacher-Training Pilot Program: Project LINK – Linking the EALRs to Their Related Content Course in Teacher Preparation – in Collaboration with Project TEACH Partner Schools and Colleges -- \$141,481 for the 2001-2003 Biennium.**

This proposal focuses on creating a model teacher preparation program for two-year college students. In this program, prospective teachers gain knowledge of and experience with Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) in humanities, social sciences and wellness.

Five outcomes are expected as a result of this project:

1. Provide exposure to all of the EALR areas to pre-service teachers in their first two years of college;
2. Create learning modules for future teachers that allow them to explore the EALRs while taking content courses;
3. Help all college instructors understand the specific needs of prospective teachers and their need to be familiar with the EALRs early in their education;
4. Create a campus-wide Teacher Preparation Advisory Committee that will serve as a long-term planning and implementation body for teacher preparation; and
5. Create a model that any community college or four-year institution could use to help future teachers explore the EALRs while taking general education courses.

- **Western Washington University Teacher-Training Pilot Program: Pathways to Careers in Teaching Phase II in Collaboration with Everett, Whatcom, and Skagit Valley Community Colleges – \$138,519**

This proposal focuses on three areas: development and articulation of programs and courses in subject areas where teacher shortages exist, such as math, science, and special education; distribution of information about teacher preparation programs to a diverse group of prospective students; and integration of the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) into general college requirement courses.

Four outcomes are expected as a result of this project:

1. Reduced time-to-degree at the baccalaureate institution for students transferring from community colleges;
2. Design of at least two lower-division courses thematically linked to the state student learning goals and essential learning requirements;
3. Articulation of a course for high school students interested in teaching careers between high school and community college partners; and
4. Establishment of effective student recruitment and advising systems with a focus on students of color.

The review committee recommendations to the HECB are embodied in *Resolution No. 01-31*, which appears below.

NEXT STEPS

Following the HECB's approval action, interagency agreements between the HECB and the institutional grant recipients will be written, outlining the terms under which the grants are provided, including details such as assessment and reporting requirements. The HECB executive director and the chief financial officers at the grant-receiving institutions will sign these agreements.

The first-year grant funds for the teacher education pilot programs will become available as soon as the interagency agreements are signed. Second-year grant funds will become available as soon as possible after July 1, 2002.

HECB staff will contact all of the institutions that applied for teacher-training pilot program grants to discuss the rationale for the review committee's recommendations and the HECB's decisions.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-31

WHEREAS, The Governor and the Legislature have appropriated \$300,000 for the 2001-2003 Biennium to the Higher Education Coordinating Board for competitive grants to develop coordinated, innovative programs of teacher training; and

WHEREAS, The Board, via *Resolution 99-27*, adopted a process for review and approval of the teacher-education pilot program grant proposals; and

WHEREAS, The Board staff and external experts in the field have evaluated the 2001-2003 grant proposals in accordance with the adopted process, and recommend funding the following teacher-education pilot programs:

1. University of Washington, Bothell Teacher-Training Pilot Program extension: The Teaching Link in Collaboration with Cascadia Community College District;
2. Green River Community College Teacher-Training Pilot Program: Project Link – Linking the EALRs to Their Related Content Course in Teacher Preparation – in Collaboration with Project Teach Partner Schools and Colleges; and
3. Western Washington University Teacher-Training Pilot Program: Pathways to Careers in Teaching Phase II in Collaboration with Everett, Whatcom, and Skagit Valley Community Colleges.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the University of Washington, Bothell teacher-training pilot program extension in the amount of \$20,000 for FY 2002; the Green River Community College teacher-training pilot program in the amount of \$141,481 for the 2001-2003 Biennium; and the Western Washington University teacher-training pilot program in the amount of \$138,519 for the 2001-2003 Biennium.

Adopted:

September 12, 2001

Attest:

Bob Craves, Chair

Kristianne Blake, Secretary